

News Release

Midwest Region

Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge Seeks Public Input into Recreation Plan

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is pleased to announce the beginning of the development of a recreation plan for the Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge). A first step in the planning process will be to gather information from Refuge users. Members of the public who are interested in participating in the planning process can attend an open house to be held at John A. Logan College on Monday, December 8th. The open house will take place in the Batteau Room (F103) of the Conference Center (Building F) between 4 and 7 p.m. Members of the public who wish to have input may attend at any time during the 3-hour open house.

The recreation plan is a step-down plan to the Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) that was completed in 2007. The CCP established management goals and objectives for all Refuge programs over a 15-year period. The recreation plan will include specific strategies for achieving the goals set forth in the CCP. We will evaluate recreation priorities during this planning process.

Input from the local community, our partners, and other stakeholders throughout the planning process is vital to the ultimate success of the plan. In particular, we hope to engage local residents and community leaders in discussing ways the Refuge could become a more integral part of the community. If you are interested in helping us plan the future of recreation at the Refuge, we encourage you to participate. You can start getting involved by attending the open house and sharing your thoughts, ideas and suggestions with Refuge staff. For more information about the recreation plan or the open house, contact Kim King-Wrenn at 618-998-5955 or Kimberly_King-Wrenn@fws.gov. For a map of the John A. Logan College campus visit their website at http://www.jalc.edu/files/uploads/global/maps/campus_map.pdf

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is committed to providing access to this meeting for all participants. Please direct all requests for sign language interpreting services, close captioning, or other accommodation needs to Kim King-Wrenn at 618-998-5955 or Kimberly_King-Wrenn@fws.gov by close of business 12/01/14.

Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge is part of the National Wildlife Refuge System which is administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.